

The Hampden-Sydney Tiger

November 9, 2023 “The Hampden-Sydney student will behave as a gentleman at all times and in all places.” Issue CIII.13

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT SPONSORS EDGAR KUNZ: WORLD RENOWN POET SPEAKS AT H-SC

MATTHEW MISCIKOWSKI '26
STAFF WRITER

Edgar Kunz is a well-known Poet who has published two books, those being *Fixer* and *Tap Out*. These books are compilations of poems loosely strung together over a wider narrative, that being Mr. Kunz's life. Many of his stories are derived from positive and negative moments in his life. On the 7th of November, Mr. Kunz arrived at Hampden-Sydney after a two-month book tour across the world with other destinations including London, Berlin, and Rome. After a short introduction of who he was, Kunz began reading some selected poems from both of his books. He read the books in order of release, with the first being *Tap Out* published in 2019. He began his reading with “Daymoon.” As

mentioned, much of Kunz's work is taken from his life experiences, and “Daymoon” was written after his breakup in a long-term relationship. Much of the poem revolves around the ideas of self-hatred, regret, and a longing of the heart. Such elements are all too common in relationships, and it is perhaps that, because Kunz has based it on his life, the message and deeper meanings hit all the harder for those who understand the process of breaking up. One of the next poems that he would read from *Tap Out* would be one titled “Pro-Wrestling.” While the title may make it sound as though it were a lighthearted commentary on overly dramatized wrestling, it is actually quite the opposite. Elements of the poem are taken straight from Kunz's childhood, which

could be quite the dark place. Interspliced between imagery of brothers emulating pro-wrestlers signature moves, we get hints of an abusive father suffering from alcoholism and a need to forget the pain of real life by finding new and inventive ways to get injured. Kunz mentions his father quite often in his works and frequently describes him as an addict and failed father. One of his other works titled “Graduation” describes his mixed feelings upon his father appearing at his graduation ceremony. While glad he showed up, he is also somewhat reviled as his father has shown up drunk and disheveled. He dives even deeper into the relationship with his father in his second book: *Fixer*. His second book is based even more heavily on his experiences with

his father, with one poem titled “Pomelo” revolving around the day his father died. Named after a kind of fruit which appears in the story, “Pomelo” takes place as Kunz celebrates Halloween with his friends in California, not realizing that his father would be announced dead the following morning. The poem is a poignant piece, and the context that Kunz provides helps to reinforce how much emotion is placed in each of his works. The final poem that he read during the event was “Night Heron,” a work quite different from his previous poems. Instead of providing the reader with a rather depressing poem, “Night Heron” is instead meant to be one that uplifts the reader. Based on his experiences with his now-fiancé, the poem gives the synopsis of their relationship and how,



Photo courtesy of Matthew Miscikowski '26

tionship and how, even in his deceased father's run-down hut, the support from his relationship gives him the strength to push through and meet another day. Kunz is a poet who takes the experiences of his life and crafts unique and memorable poems from them. They have a broad

appeal to many readers, including those in relationships, going through break-ups, and those with a rocky childhood. From joy to sorrow, his works are an emotional rollercoaster, but Kunz is not afraid to delve into dark territory to craft a glowing masterpiece.

VIRTUOUS COMPETITION: LESSONS FROM AN ULTRAMARATHONER

JEFFREY YOUNG '27
STAFF WRITER

Last Friday, Cogito and Wilson Center jointly sponsored a Lecture on “Virtuous Competition” by guest speaker Dr. Sabrina Little. Dr. Little has a Ph.D. in philosophy from Baylor University and teaches in CNU's Department of Leadership and American Studies, along with also being a champion ultramarathoner. The lecture started with Little asking the audience what sports they have played and how they have positively impacted them. Little then asked how they have been negatively impacted by sports. This establishment of the negative and positive that these areas of competition bring us to the point of the lecture on “Virtuous Competition.” Little then expanded on performance-enhancing vices, such as envy with how it drives you to win, pride for

it is always under attack for not being number one, and selfishness with how it lets one focus on oneself. Little then asked, “Should you permit the growth of these vices if unbalanced they position you to be a more successful performer?” “Should you always prioritize character even at elite and Olympic levels?” This question fits into the overarching theme of virtuous competition, for would one with lesser character be virtuous? The continuation does go past just the student-athlete with Little comparing how even other performance enhances such as greed, which may be good financially but infringes upon your life outside of that. With that, Little went into the effect of what competition is and how the modern connotation of the word “competitive” has shifted to “are you being an envious person?” Little then stated, “I want to

reclaim competition from envy.” The question of why we should protect competition is then asked to the audience, followed by reasons for doing so: it increases effort, learning, academic performance, athletic performance, and innovation. This ability of competition should hold so as not to undo one another but outdo one another. This is shown in the Christian faith with Romans 12:10: “Love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor.” So that it is virtuous to be competitive. Through that, Little continued with the value of emotions that could replace envy, namely gratitude, awe, and admiration. Starting with gratitude, it is one of the ‘other praising’ emotions that one has benefited from another, and it is also a social emotion with a positive balance by eliciting socially

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HONORING A LEGEND: FAVRET'S LAST HOME GAME AT H-SC

ALEXANDER ALBRIGHT '27
STAFF WRITER

Though excitement doused Fulton Field as a nail-biting overtime cascaded into an amazing victory against Shenandoah, there was a tinge of somberness in the air on Saturday, November 4, 2023, as Coach Marty Favret won his final game as football coach on Hampden-Sydney soil. Favret started his tenure as head coach in 1999, and since then he has led H-SC to fifteen winning seasons. The longest tenured Head Coach in Virginia, Favret has cemented himself into Hampden-Sydney history as a legendary icon with the most wins out of any coach in our history. After the game on Saturday, a retirement party was held in Snyder Hall, where family, friends, colleagues, alumni, and athletes gathered to celebrate his years of excellence in coaching. As people flooded

into the hall, laughter echoed across the room as familiar faces greeted each other. People lined up at the bar to get drinks then went to socialize. After Favret was handed the ball that was intercepted during the final few seconds of the game by James-Ryan Salvi '24, Director of Athletics Chad Eisele gave a brief but passionate speech thanking Favret for his time served at Hampden-Sydney. Eisele noted how Favret was instrumental in his decision to work at the college and said that he “couldn't be prouder” working beside him for seven years. Next, President Larry Stimpert got on stage to say a few words of his own. He started off by noting how small liberal arts colleges like Hampden-Sydney are special because of “the people that make the college their life's work,” a testament to the dedication that Favret has put in throughout his

tenure. Touting his “amazing record,” Stimpert noted Favret's numerous accomplishments both at a college and conference level. He then went on to emphasize that Favret is “one of the most humble people you'll ever meet,” calling him a “great role model” with “tremendous humility.” After President Stimpert ended his speech, he invited Favret on stage to say a few words of his own. After explaining his change of attire because of having “fifteen beers poured on him,” Favret thanked everyone in attendance, including a group of coaches that he had when he was playing football in the fourth grade that inspired his love for the game. He also thanked his family, who came out from all over adorned with t-shirts commemorating his retirement. He then reminisced about a conversation he had with former College

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NEWS

FIXING TRADITION.... BY BREAKING CARS

DREW DUFFY '24
STAFF WRITER

Hampden-Sydney hangs its hat on a unique culture that has been built over generations. Some students come to this institution knowing that there have been traditions ingrained in the fabric of social life for many years. Decades pass and many experiences stay largely the same. Stories from fathers, brothers, or even friends play a large part in the attraction to such a storied college. Flip through any old edition of the Kaleidoscope, and you will find a lot of the same types of images you would see today. There are images of fraternity circle appearing largely similar, both physically and socially. Gatherings of men and women with live music and social events fill pages of old yearbooks, a sight that could still be seen on any given weekend in 2023. There are plenty of images showing dressed up Hampden-Sydney men tailgating for athletic compe-

titions, supporting their Tiger brothers who are battling on Fulton Field. For a school that is so entrenched in its storied history, there has seemingly been a straying away from student-led traditions in re-

Hopefully this willingness to compromise will lead to students speaking up for what they believe to be true and right, guaranteeing that these H-SC traditions will be here for the next generations to enjoy.

cent years. The COVID-19 pandemic could play a part in this, but many believe that the pandemic can no longer be used as an excuse. One junior student who senses a building divide between how things have been and how things are trending, relayed, “I feel like the school is moving away from making the Hampden-Sydney experience about the students. Rather, they are focusing on changing some of the most crucial elements of what we hope to soak in during our four years here.” Stories from alumni, many of whom frequent the Hill regularly, create am-

bitious students attempting to uphold such high standards of these traditions. One senior student told me, “It really is unfortunate. I came to this school because of the great things you hear from alumni and friends

from back home. I remember people talking to me about the Brinkley Bonfire, the Greek Week experience, and how relationships are formed across all disciplines. Now, it is getting harder to be more involved in these events, especially if they cease to exist.”

The most recent kerfuffle as it pertains to the Beat Macon Car Bash was yet another example of this. The Student Senate is tasked with organizing this effort every year. Prior to a meeting with upper-level administrators, the car bash would have fallen victim to yet another strike down from

the “higher-ups.” Thankfully, a group of senators met with members of the administration to work out a path for the Car Bash to continue. While great for both student leaders and administration to come to an agreement, there seemingly remains a disconnect between what students want to enjoy and what the school permits. After solving the issue of the Beat Macon Car Bash, Chairman of the Student Senate, Drew Blankenship, told me, “I’m glad we could get the car bash back on after some negotiations with the administration. Beat Macon. Tigs by 90.”

The Student Senate’s work with the administration is a step in the right direction for valuing the voice of the student body. While some traditions undoubtedly change with time, it should be the responsibility of all parties involved in ensuring that they are not lost completely. Hopefully this willingness to compromise will lead to students speaking up for what they believe to be true and right, guaranteeing that these H-SC traditions will be here for the next generations to enjoy.

FRONT-PAGE CONTINUATIONS

HONORING A LEGEND

President General Sam Wilson before he was hired in 2007. The big takeaway he had from that meeting was to “bring smiles back to Hampden-Sydney on the Saturdays in the fall.” He then ended his speech by saying “now let’s go beat Macon!” After this, Favret’s sister came up on stage with a speech she prepared. She emphasized how the games have become a family affair, with the Favret family in attendance at almost every single game. After the speeches had concluded, all the chatter in the room was nothing but positive things about Favret. The sense of history in the room was palpable, and the storied tales of past seasons were staggering. All these people were brought together to celebrate an amazing legacy, and it’s clear that Coach Marty Favret’s will be one that lasts generations.

LITTLE

productive habits. The second emotion, awe, is the feeling of respect with wonder that cannot be replicated by oneself, but this is not the best one to follow for one can copy some virtue of another and it stuns you. That then leaves admiration. “Admiration,” as Little said, “is an appreciative perception of the excellences of another.” And that its action potential is imitation for it encourages practice to achieve what we want from those we admire. But the best way to remove envy from the competition is to not just see who crosses the finish line first, but also look at other factors like improvement, courage, and patience. All factors to improve oneself could be victorious. In conclusion, Dr. Sabrina Little’s lecture on “Virtuous Competition” sponsored by Cogito and the Wilson Center provided valuable insights into the complex nature of competition in our modern society. The question that everyone should ask themselves is: “Am I victorious or am I envious?”

LOMBARDI: A NEW PLAY AT H-SC

JACOB GARNER '27
STAFF WRITER

On November 2nd, 4th, 9th, and 11th, the Hampden-Sydney Fine Arts Department put on their fall production of Lombardi, directed by Shirley Kagan and written by Eric Simonson. Senior Robert ‘Keane’ Emmans starred as the titular football coach, Vincent Lombardi, for which the Superbowl trophy is named. Emmans felt that “it [was] an honor” to play such a legendary figure.

The play takes place over a week during the 1965 football season. Reporter Michael McCormick, played by junior Evin Burton, is sent out to Green Bay, Wisconsin to write an article about their head coach, Vincent Lombardi. As the week progresses, Michael comes to understand Lombardi and his coaching style, allowing him to see the man behind the coach. The production also starred Elizabeth ‘Betsy’ Leonard as Marie Lombardi, junior Kevin Busch as Paul Hornung, Mi-

chael Harris as Dave Robinson, and sophomore Brown Riggin as Jim Taylor.

Lombardi originally opened on Broadway in late October of 2010 and closed in May of 2011. The show ran for almost 250 performances during its original run.

Auditions for the show were held on September 4th and 5th, and the cast and crew began rehearsals soon after. Everyone involved rehearsed five nights a week for almost two entire months. When asked about getting into character, Emmans said “I’m not playing to the character, I’m playing to

[my] strengths and what I know.” Betsy Leonard, the school’s Head Swim Coach and Fitness Center Director, said it was easy to relate to Marie because “I see the very dry sense of humor in myself, but I feel I relate to her care and compassion as well.” As this is Leonard’s first leading role in a production, she was thrilled that everyone was so “patient” with her.

The show’s opening was a great success. The cast and crew’s efforts over the past two months truly seemed to pay off as the show was incredible. Each actor had their moment to shine on

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Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

DEAN DIETTE:

H-SC SELECTS NEW DEAN OF FACULTY

MARC MOROZ '26
STAFF WRITER

After he visited Hampden-Sydney on October 12, the search committee—led by Dr. Chirstine Varholly and Dr. Ivo Gyurovski ‘09—selected Dr. Tim Diette to succeed Dr. McDermott as the new Dean of Faculty.

In the announcement of his hiring, the school highlights that “Dr. Diette brings significant leadership experience and talent from several administrative roles” and has performed research with the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economics and Social Research in the Faculty of Business and Economics at the University of Melbourne and with the Research Network on Racial and Ethnic Inequality in

the Social Science Research Institute at Duke University.

Dr. Diette has been at Washington and Lee since 2004 as an Economics Professor. In addition to being a professor, he is now also the Executive Director of the Shepherd Higher Education Consortium on Poverty (SHECP), which “encourages the study of poverty as a complex social problem by expanding and improving educational opportunities for college students in a wide range of disciplines and career trajectories” (SHECP).

In the announcement, Dr. Stimpert added, “He has a deep appreciation for Hampden-Sydney College’s distinctive mission, history, and especially our college’s commitment to charac-

ter development.”

This is reinforced by Dr. Diette’s statement that he is “proud to take up Hampden-Sydney’s mission of transforming the lives of young men,” saying he looks forward to taking advantage of the “distinctive opportunities to build relationships and... develop the whole man.”

Later, Dr. Diette reiterated that he is “thrilled to be joining the Hampden-Sydney community!” and “can’t wait to get to campus, meet more members of the community, and collaborate with others on advancing the ambitious vision of H-SC.” Dr. Diette closed, saying, “It is an honor to join an institution with such engaged alumni and a distinctive history and mission.”

SPORTS

TIGERBALL UPDATE

FEATURED ATHLETE: MELIK FROST

DANIEL STACHOWSKI '25
SPORTS EDITOR

If my life depended on getting a first down, I would give the football to Melik Frost. Pound for pound, I think Melik is the best running back in the ODAC. This 200lb running machine plays with an engine that does not go out until the final whistle. Number 7, from Hardeeville, South Carolina, possesses a swagger about him that does not and should not go unnoticed. The grit that he plays at the running back position reminds me of a pro-to-Marshawn Lynch. Although Melik might not be the tallest or the fastest, his undeniable motor supersedes everything. Besides day drinking, watching Frost go to work on the football field has to be the highlight of my weekend. Throughout his time here at Hampden-Sydney, Frost has been the go-to option for our offense running the football. He has recorded over 2,000 rushing yards, 25 touchdowns, and an average of around 66 yards rushing per game. Besides holding these impressive stats, Frost has also received the following awards: All-ODAC team selections (2), All-Academic ODAC Team selections (3), and was voted in by his teammates as a Team Captain this year.



Melik and I found some time for an interview recently, here are some of the highlights:

You were selected by your peers to be a captain this year. The last time you held this sort of position was in high school. With that in mind, in terms of leadership, how have you grown since then?

First I would like to say that I am very grateful for this honor. I take pride in being the best version of myself that I can be for my teammates every day. Over the years I've learned how to effectively communicate with people. My only goal is to hold everyone accountable for their actions because I genuinely care about them.

From high school to college, a major part of my transition is being on a team with guys who may not share a similar background as myself. Although this difference took a while to get used to, we all share the same common goal. As

a leader, I strive to show my teammates what it means to have a hard work ethic and unconditional love. Like I said, I care about all my teammates like family. One of my former coaches used always to tell me that people will move mountains for you when they know you genuinely care about them. Likewise, I try to apply that when it comes to my leadership style.

What was it like being the only boy out of three sisters?

It was far from easy, but being the only boy made me become that protective brother. I always want what is best for my sisters and I'll do anything to make sure they always keep a smile on their faces. *Although they have given me plenty of headaches over the years, I wouldn't trade them for the world.*

You've led this team statistically in offense last year, what keeps you so focused and/or motivated?

My "why"

is what motivates me: my mother and the place I grew up. Growing up in Jasper County, a small area in South Carolina, I was raised around drugs and violence. People near my area, or anyone familiar with it, never expect anything positive to come out of there. *I strive, however, to show the next generations that you can follow your dreams and achieve whatever you want to do in life through hard work and consistency.* I also grew up watching my mother make a lot of sacrifices and work multiple jobs to provide for our household so in return I want to make my people proud of my accomplishments and the man I'm becoming.

Tell me about a hard moment and how you've overcome it.

During my senior year in high school, I was battling a few injuries. I was playing football with a broken right ankle and a high sprain in my left ankle. I sprained my left ankle during the third game of the season and broke my right ankle in the ninth game of the season.

Many will probably read that and think how is it possible to play running back with those severe injuries? - The truth is I didn't. By the

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WEEK 9 WEIRDNESS:

THE NFL

NICK RUBINO '25
STAFF WRITER

A snippet of this week I found interesting were the following matchups:

Minnesota Vikings vs. Atlanta Falcons:

As the quarterback for Minnesota Kirk Cousins went down last week, the Vikings turned to Jaren Hall and in the early portion of this game. Unfortunately, he went down quick with an injury and the Vikings were forced to turn to Joshua Dobbs. Dobbs was acquired this week via trade and had not been prepared to play a game running with this offense. With all these seemingly impossible odds stacked against him, Dobbs ended up throwing for 158 yards, two touchdowns, and running for 66 yards and a rushing touchdown. The final score was in the Vikings favor, they won 31-28. This pushed the Vikings record this year to go above .500 - moving them to 5 wins and 4 losses. They look to play the Saints at home next week and add to there impressive season thus far.

Tampa Bay Buccaneers vs. Houston Texans:

A historic day for the rookie Quarterback C.J. Stroud as he battled with Baker Mayfield. C.J. somehow ended up coming out on top of this game 39-37. He also threw for 470 yards (the most

ever for a rookie) and 5 touchdowns including a game-winning drive leaving only 10 seconds on the clock. This game was impressive to say the least. The Texans' main wide receiver of the day was Noah Brown who had 6 receptions for 153 yards and a touchdown. The Texans are now right at .500 as they have 4 wins and 4 losses. They go to play the Bengals next week in Cincinnati.

Dallas Cowboys vs. Philadelphia Eagles:

One of the oldest rivalries in the league, this game is normally pure entertainment. The Eagles snuck through beating the Cowboys 28-23. Eagles Quarterback Jalen Hurts had an efficient game throwing 23 times, completing 17 and throwing for 207 yards and 2 touchdowns. A.J. Brown had a good game as well getting 7 receptions, 66 yards, and a touchdown. The Eagles will get a bye week this coming week and will go to Kansas City on November 20th.

As the year keeps going, a couple of teams are coming out on top. The Eagles are 8-1 and the only team in the league with one loss. A couple of teams are right behind them with only two losses, like the Lions, Ravens, Jaguars, and Chiefs. As the season progresses, this race will get closer and closer, and who will come out on top?

MARTY'S FAREWELL TOUR:

QUAKERS LEFT QUAKING

BRANDON FINCH '26
STAFF WRITER

Adding to their winning record, the Tigers took home an impressive win in their away game at Guilford College on October 28. Our Tigers were looking to bounce back from a loss gained in the previous week, and this win sure raised the morale. The final score was a jaw-dropping 42-21. *Not only did this win increase Hampden-Sydney's record to 5-3, but this game also marked the 150th win for head coach Marty Favret. Coach Favret has been with Hampden-Sydney*

for 24 years, but he also holds the most football wins in school history! This game could not have been won without some key players, so let's give these stars a shoutout. *Senior quarterback Andrew Puccinelli once again proved his legitimacy as our starting quarterback with 22 completions for 236 cumulative yards. Puccinelli passed for 3 touchdowns as well as completing a 2-point conversion. Our rushing game was also on point with senior running back Melik Frost leading the Tigers in rushing yards. Frost ran for an impressive 109 yards with 1 touch-*

down - it should be noted this is a career-high for Frost. The leading receiver for the Tigers was junior Austin Fernandez. Fernandez caught 5 passes for a combined 75 yards. He also managed to score one touchdown off a 25-yard touchdown pass. Finally, our defense put in work holding the Quakers to their meager 21 points. The leading defensive player for the game was senior safety and team captain Will Pickren. Pickren led the defense with 12 tackles, 1 sack, and 1 forced fumble. This performance made Pickren

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NCAA MEN'S AP POLL:

No. 1, 2, 3 PREVIEW

HARRY RUST '24
STAFF WRITER

As we get closer and closer to the end of the fall semester, exams, papers, and homework continue to bog us down as we try to balance academic excellence and our interests and hobbies. Although November comes with more academic rigor, there is something that comes in November that provides us with a sense of joy and excitement that can provide a much-needed break; NCAA Basketball. The season begins on November 6th (the day this article is submitted), so, un-

fortunately, I can't give any scores or season opener recaps in this article; however, NCAA basketball doesn't just start when the whistle is blown and the much anticipated 2023 season tip-off is underway. As soon as March Madness ends in a thrilling finale that is watched by millions of people around the world, sports analysts are making their predictions on who will win the next March Madness and what the top 25 rankings will be for the next season. As it stands right now, the AP poll has the University of Kansas as number one, the Duke Blue Devils at num-

ber two, and the Purdue Boilermakers at number three, followed by a slew of other powerhouses and teams that are household names in the college basketball realm. Teams like UNC Chapel Hill, Michigan State, Texas, and Alabama to name a few are almost always in or around the top 25 rankings at any given point. So, in looking at all of these way-too-early statistics and predictions, I figured I'd give a short preview of the top three teams and maybe a way-too-early prediction for myself. Out of the

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PEANUT GALLERY

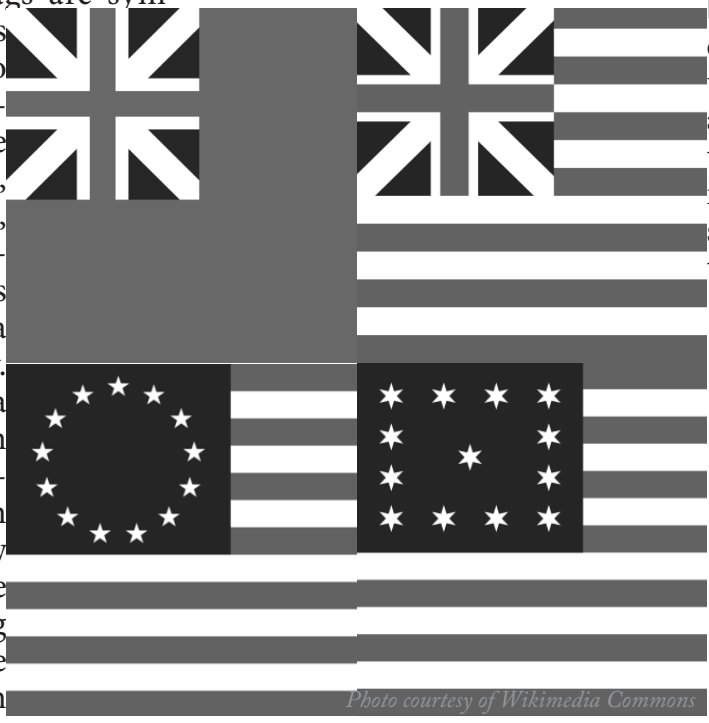
THE HISTORY COLUMN:
BEFORE IT WAS SPANGLED WITH STARS

WYATT THORNTON '26
COPY EDITOR

Without exception, every country on Earth today has a flag. Flags are symbols used to represent the values, ideas, and traditions of a country. It is a medium of expression that saw its rise during the age of sail in the 16th

that this feature was retained as a show of loyalty to King George III, with the hope that the king would come to the aid of the colonists

flag as well, but at 15 states this was determined to be impractical and the so was stopped. As the U.S. expanded westward more states would be added to the union and thus more stars to the flag.



century, as a way for ships to identify themselves, and would come into full force during the 18th and 19th centuries as nationalism took hold in Europe. It is right about this time when the United States was coming into being ("National Flag").

Before the Revolutionary War began, the Red Ensign flag was used by American maritime merchants ("Grand Union Flag"). When the colonists became increasingly disgruntled toward the British, flags such as the Taunton and the George Rex were created to convey feelings of dissatisfaction toward the British ("Red Ensign"). When the Revolutionary War broke out, the Grand Union Flag was used by parts of the Continental Navy, Army, and Congress. There remains questions about who exactly designed the flag and when this happened. A telling feature about the flag is the retaining of the British flag in the canton. Various academics suggest

who felt they had been unfairly treated by the British parliament ("Grand Union Flag").

The Grand Union Flag would not last long. As soon as 1777 it had already been replaced via the Flag Act, which stated: "...that the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation" (Library of Congress). Like the Grand Union Flag, who exactly designed the first flag remains a point of contention, and there are various designs out there. Furthermore, how the stars were displayed on the flag was not specified, leading to yet more variations ("Flag of the United States").

After the United States had cemented its independence, the country would add a star to its flag for each subsequent state admitted to the union. Initially one stripe was added to the

During the Civil War, the popularity of the American flag exploded in the North after the battle of Fort Sumter and the production of flags increased enormously. As the United States has expanded a new star has been added for each new state admitted. This means that the national flag has changed at least 27 times since its inception ("Flag of the United States").

The flag has become one of the most recognizable symbols of America, if not one of the most recognizable symbols in the world in general. Part of that has to do with the global influence and presence of America, but one must appreciate the simple yet effective design embodied in the flag. The flag has also taken on an almost spiritual meaning among the American populace, as it has been flown as a symbol of defiance against great adversity, such as on ground zero after 9/11. In ways

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MENTAL HEALTH:
NOW IS NOT THE TIME TO LOSE
YOUR MIND

HUNTER POWELL '26
STAFF WRITER

As we approach the end of the fall semester, it's important for you as the student to stand firm within yourself, and to finish your courses strongly. This time period is not a time to slack off. It is critically important for you to stay aware of yourself, the course calendar, and how much time you have to work with to get things done. One way to maintain this outlook is by minimizing the amount of distraction going on in your life. The workload of academics alone is tough to stay on top of, so control what you can control, and don't self-inflict your situation with things that pull you into so many different directions.

There is only so much time in each day to get things done, so don't neglect the opportunity to be productive. At any point between now and the time the semester is over, you will find yourself at the crossroads of having to make some decisions. You may have to go above and beyond to get things done in a timely manner; if you care about what you're doing, putting in the extra time is perfectly normal. If you are doing all that you can do, there will be late nights, and early mornings where you are striving to be the best student YOU can be. It is during those times where I hope you find peace in knowing that all of us in the student body are going through this experience together. I know that if you are trying your best, your best can

still feel like it's not good enough at all. Life can be mentally, physically, and emotionally exhausting at times. If you are having struggles in any area of your life it can cause academics to be an absolute struggle to deal with on your own. I am here to inform you that you don't have to go through it alone. There are great resources of assistance spread out all around campus. These wonderful individuals are really invested in serving the campus community. They have the knowledge to talk through things with you, and to assist you in the midst of your struggles.

I know as a male, it can be tough to ask for help, but sometimes we need to humble ourselves and be honest about our reality. There comes a time when a man must separate himself from his foolish pride. If you feel like you need help, seek it out, and you shall find it. Listed below are the highly confidential resources that are available to each and every student attending H-SC:

C o u n s e l - i n g Services:
Clarence D. Merckerson (434)223-6411
cmerckerson@hsc.edu

S t u d e n t Health Center:
(434) 223-6167
kball@hsc.edu
Academic Success: Located in Bortz Library, rooms 231-235. Go to the H-SC website to schedule an appointment.

Renae Mancastroppa, Associate Dean for Student Development and Well-Being, MA

Brown Student Center 307
| (434) 223-6318

rmancastroppa@hsc.edu

Mr. Jay F. Rutherford III '23, Assistant Dean for Student Development, Character and Well-Being Brown Student Center 310
| (434) 223-6221
jrutherford@hsc.edu

College Chaplain
Rev. M. Keith Leach
College Church
| (434) 223-6269
kleach@hsc.edu

Collectively, there are so many incredible individuals spread across campus who seek to be a blessing to others. Do not be afraid to confide with those you trust around you. Your classmates can be some of your best teammates. Likewise, your professors, believe it or not, are human too, and they are willing to help you; a good honest conversation goes a long way.

No matter what it is that you're going through, I want you to know that somebody cares about you. You have what it takes to make it through your struggles. This time period of your life is only temporary and it too shall pass. As long you stay true to yourself, strive to do your best, and reach out for help when needed I believe good things will happen for you. I want you to finish strong my friend.

As President of the Student Health & Well-Being Board, I want you to know that you can reach out to me at any time in regards

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TIGER TALES

JONATHAN COLEMAN '26
STAFF WRITER

It didn't take long for the three disgruntled individuals to rally more dissenters to their cause. The boy's trial had divided the community more than most people felt like letting on, and while many had simply deemed the outcome to be justified and carried on with their lives, several of the boy's parents' neighbors hadn't. Those people then found others,

who in turn found even more like-minded men and women, until they had formed themselves into quite a sizeable force.

On the day they first assembled—in a long-abandoned industrial warehouse for fear of being seen—the guard surveyed his motley crew. Unsurprisingly, he saw very few fighters among them. The Dictator offered many attractive incentives to his soldiers to



keep them loyal, and that system worked exceedingly well. The rebels had been lucky to recruit anyone with any combat experience at all, and although they

STICK: PART 6

ferent, more subtle set of tactics. While the boy's father had given him control of the military branch of this new faction, his troops could never take on any of the Dictator's battalions in a fair fight. No one in the rebellion's leadership wanted to use words like "sabotage," "treason," or "terrorism" to describe their plans, and yet those were the only words that came into the guard's mind just then. But none of

that mattered; too much had already been set in motion. All they had to do now was keep their faith in their righteous cause, and the guard felt sure they would prevail. Ordinarily, such a revolution would have been easily suppressed. But time and circumstance were on their side. The Dictator had indeed become as weak and frail as rumor suggested, and his underlings had already

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THE BACK PAGE

NCAA, CONT'D

current top 25 teams, 3 teams stand out to analysts and basketball fans. That's Kansas, Duke, and Purdue.

Starting with Purdue, they have the returning AP Poll national player of the year Zach Edey as a primary weapon, as well as the sophomore stand-out duo of Fletcher Loyer and Braden Smith. The Boiler-makers ease into their season with a couple of unranked matchups, then move onto the likes of No. 11 Gonzaga, No. 24 Alabama, and No. 12 Arizona in the middle of their season. The most important thing for Purdue will be to test themselves as much as possible during the regular season to be fully ready for a redemption tournament run. The odds could be in Purdue's favor as they were for UVA in 2019. Entering last year's tournament as a number one seed, Purdue was my pick to win it all. Coming off of their first-round exit to 16th seed Fairleigh Dickinson last year, Purdue will be a force to be reckoned with going into the 2023-2024 season.

Next up is Kansas. Ranked at

the current AP Poll number 1, Kansas is loaded with talent from the Jayhawk's past triumphs and fresh transfer students. The biggest news for the 2022 national champions is the return of Dajuan Harris Jr. and Kevin McCullar Jr. who are defensive powerhouses, as well as the addition of former Michigan second-team All-American Hunter Dickinson who adds all-around scoring and production increases under the basket. Kansas faces a tough end-of-the-season run facing teams like Texas, Baylor, and Houston within three weeks of each other. If the Jayhawks can utilize their returning core of talented players and finish strong going into March, the Jayhawks could very well be champions once again.

Last but not least we have the Duke Blue Devils. The team led by former Duke standout Jon Scheyer features a mostly underclassman roster, which is unsurprising considering the past couple of years for the Blue Devils; however, the projected starting lineup for Duke's season opener against Dart-

mouth features three sophomores, a senior, and freshman star recruit Jared McCain. This lineup is surprising because it looks like Duke is straying from their freshman-heavy starting lineups and moving back towards having strong returning players. The 2023 ACC champion Blue Devils feature sophomore players Tyrese Proctor, Mark Mitchell, and Kyle Filipowski, as well as senior guard Jeremy Roach. Losing to the No. 4 seeded Tennessee Volunteers in last year's March Madness, the Blue Devils will be tested early this season with two back-to-back games against top 25 opponents Arizona and Michigan State. If the Blue Devils can utilize their young guns and have Jared McCain playing like the 5-star he is, a sixth National Champions banner could find itself back in Cameron Indoor once again.

Tip-off for the 2023 season starts November 6th, and I'll be watching for what I think is Duke's National Championship to take.

FROST, CONT'D

time I broke my right ankle, my coaches gave me the option to either be out for the season and rehab to get ready for college ball or keep playing. Although this decision was hard, I came to the conclusion that it was in my best interest to only play linebacker instead of linebacker and running back.

It was a tough decision for me to make because I was being recruited to play running back, so my film was going to lack plays on offense, but it was what had to be done. I wanted to do what was best for the team and myself at the end of the day.

I kept my "why" in the back of my mind,

and that is what pushed me through this last season. Whenever you're facing a challenge in life always remember your why - it's not easy getting up every day and doing the same routine repeatedly. Your "why" will keep you motivated to strive for greatness.

FLAG, CONT'D

such as this, the American flag represents not just the country of America, but the country's spirit as well.

If you have questions or wish to know the sources for this article, I can be reached at thorn-tonw26@hsc.edu.

QUAKERS, CONT'D

plause for him as well as our entire team in this win on the record of most career tackles. With 345 tackles throughout his football career, Pickren could make Hampden-Sydney football history in his last two games at our beloved college. A round of ap-

OLIVER ANTHONY, CONT'D

ly, I heard uproar as students were focused on the fact that they had never heard of the headlining band, yet to realize the Castells were very attractive women. Perhaps many expected to hear Oliver Anthony at homecoming, but as soon as he was brought up in conversation, I began to hear an interesting sentiment. I both talked to and overheard a lot of students who expressed that they were tired of hearing about Oliver Anthony anyway, and that he was overrated. I heard this sentiment expressed several times over the next few days and became interested.

I had scarcely ever seen such open hostility to a celebrity who had been so popular relatively recently, especially among my own peer group. I began to think about why this may have been, and it all seemed to come

down to a rupture in social media hype. So far Oliver Anthony has a catalogue of over a dozen songs, most of which are just as good as "Rich Men North of Richmond." However, that was the song that went viral and for which he became famous—both for the political qualities but also for the soulfulness and conviction with which Anthony sang. The viral hit came with a perfect storm of various demographics identifying with its lyrics, but also its subconscious value as a cultural touchstone for the modern right. It was primarily written to express the discontent of the rural poor, but middle-class Republicans, who think that politicians are corrupt and ineffectual, also enjoy the message. Those who simply don't like paying taxes find implicit appeal in it as well. The aspect of "Rich Men North

of Richmond" as a "protest song" also appeals to an older generation not native to social media, but still subject to its cycle of hype. I guarantee I am not the only Hampden-Sydney boy whose mom sent him news articles about Oliver Anthony back in August.

In today's age of consumerism, commodification, and an overload of content of all types, what Gen Z hungers for is authenticity. Oliver Anthony seemed to offer that for many, but, through no fault of his own. Anthony's most famous song grew beyond him, and I believe the hype made him lose that authenticity and become just another passing trend. Either way, he has genuine talent. I hope to see him at Hampden-Sydney sometime this year.

STICK, CONT'D

started vying for the top position. Many separate underground movements had already formed. The guard found many sympathizers for his cause where there would normally have been none.

Three months later, the Dictator was found dead. No one ever figured out the cause, but that hardly mattered in the end. By that time, the guard's rebellion had grown into one of the largest of the warring factions. The story of the boy and his stick gave them something to rally behind. Whereas most of the Dictator's former officials would have set themselves up as a new Dicta-

tor, the guard's faction wished only to transform the old autocratic state into the kind of idyllic society they dreamed it could become—a society where everyone had a say and the freedom to be themselves. And, eventually, after a hard-fought struggle and the passing of another year, that dream came to pass.

The boy had no idea of what he had inspired until it was over. When a new constitution had been drawn up and a new democratic assembly elected, they called the boy to appear before them. In front of the entire assembly, the guard and his parents credited him

for being their inspiration to take down the Dictator. The guard's daughter even came up to kiss him on the cheek.

Many years later, they married each other, and even had twin sons. On the twins' tenth birthday, their father took them into the clearing in the woods and gave them each a very special present: one half of the famous stick. As he and his wife watched them run off among the trees, brandishing their weapons and shouting their battle cries, he had an overwhelming feeling that everything would be all right.

MENTAL HEALTH, CONT'D

to anything related to you. I am here to genuinely help you

and to serve this community at H-SC. You can reach me

at my email, powellh26@hsc.edu.

CHAIRMAN, CONT'D

tal agreement: AI is either incorporated into the classroom or it is outright banned. This way, the Student Senate can update The Key accordingly. Once this happens, we

can incorporate this decision into the academic culture here and reduce instances of these infractions. Otherwise, I suspect AI cases will continue to pop up in a frequent manner.

LOMBARDI, CONT'D

stage and show off their skills, allowing the audience to feel the actor's emotions during each scene. Overall, Lombardi is

an incredible showing from the Hampden-Sydney Fine Arts Department.



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Write for *The Tiger*.

Contact newspaper@hsc.edu for more information.